

The birds treated with stilbesterol did consume more feed than the non-treated birds. The authors feel that this is due primarily to difference in fleshing and finish when the birds were treated rather than any other factor. It is regrettable that the feed consumption records on the two lots prior to the treatment of the birds were not available.

Conclusion

The data indicate that the turkey breeder can safely inject diethyl stilbesterol into his breeder hens four weeks prior to marketing without impairing the production, fertility, or hatchability of his hens during the period. This procedure is recommended particularly if the turkey breeder hens are not in top market condition as the birds approach the end of their usefulness as breeders. Breeders are cautioned, however, not to inject toms as that would materially affect fertility.

ABOUT WOODY PLANTS

"Woody Plant Seed Manual" is the title of an unusually attractive book recently issued by the U. S. Forestry Service. It is a well bound volume of 416 pages, sold by the superintendent of documents, Washington, D. C., at \$2.75. The first 50 pages deal with collection, preparation and testing of seeds. In the rest of the book each genus is discussed with good illustrations of seeds and seedlings. If several species of a genus are treated, these are tabulated or discussed further. Spruce occupies five pages, pine 16. There is a general bibliography on each group. Total number of forms treated is 444.—NDAC Botany News Letter.

"Wildlife Review" is a bulky mimeographed publication issued as abstracting service for wildlife management issued for the information of cooperators by the Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of Interior, Laurel, Md. The January 1950 issue of 67 pages is the 58th number. The conservationist, and indeed all citizens, will find here timely and up-to-date information on mammals, birds, reptiles, fishes and mollusks, and related information. Nearly 100 serial publications were abstracted for this January number. Included was "North Dakota Outdoors" edited by the State Game and Fish Department, Bismarck, N. D.—(H. L. W.)

DRYING SEED WITHOUT HEAT

Using calcium chloride instead of heat, engineers of the United States Department of Agriculture have shown that seed can be dried without the dangers of fire and reduced germination from overheating. The method is especially good for the small grower who cannot afford elaborate and costly regulated equipment for drying seeds with heated air.

All that is required is a bin, which can be built by any man reasonably handy with tools, and a fan. The calcium chloride costs about three cents a pound. In farm tests with lupine seed, it took about three pounds of the chemical to reduce the moisture content of 100 pounds of seed from 17.3 to 13 per cent.

The seed is dried in a tight bin with a screened bottom through which dried air is fanned. The moistened air from the top of the bin is then recirculated to the bottom of the dryer. In the dryer unit it passes first over brine from the calcium chloride, then over the flakes of the chemical, and then back to the bin again.